[Mr. N. Ramakrishna Pillai.]

(*c*) that all applications for loans should be disposed of within a period of one and a half months?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The member's suggestion to restrict the amount of the loan to Rs. 1,000 would not be in the interests of the public. Government have issued instructions to grant large loans only sparingly.

(*b*) The Land Improvement and Agricultural Loans Regulation, IX of 1094, and the rules issued thereunder, define the persons to whom and the purpose for which loans are to be granted. Government do not see any reason to alter the Regulation and the rules.

(*c*) It is not possible to prescribe any period for the disposal of loan applications. Strict instructions have been issued for the disposal of loan applications as expeditiously as possible and the work is reviewed periodically.

Distribution of Appointments.

45. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to issue stringent orders that, when more applicants than one, having the same qualifications, come forward in respect of the same post in any department of the State service except the Devaswom Department, preference ought to be given to that applicant whose community is the least represented in the department in proportion to its numerical strength?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): This question is covered by a resolution balloted for discussion at this meeting of the Council.

Sericultural Expert.

46. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state the qualification and pay of the Sericultural Expert?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Sericultural Expert gets a pay of Rs. 60 in the scale of Rs. 60-5-100. He has undergone training in sericulture at Bangalore and Pusa and in silk weaving at Kashmir and Berhampur.

The Empire Exhibition.

47. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: (*Vaikam cum Ettumanur*): In regard to the recent exhibition for sending exhibits to the Empire Exhibition, will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number and kinds of exhibits collected and sent up by the Industries Department, with the exception of those supplied by the School of Arts;

(*b*) the amount spent for the purpose of collecting exhibits and the amount spent for the purpose of making or manufacturing exhibits;

(*c*) the total amount hitherto spent on account of the exhibition and the different items of expenditure; and

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